

Appl. No. 09/851,999
Amdt. dated December 16, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 9, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein and amend claims 2, 3, 5 and 9 and enter new claims 10-12 as set forth in the following listing of claims.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application.

Claim 1. (canceled)

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Claim 2. (currently amended) ~~The engine~~
~~starter according to claim 1. An engine starter, comprising:~~

a recoil device;

a ring gear operatively rotated with
said recoil device;

a recoil cover for accommodating said
recoil device and said ring gear therein;

a starter device having pinions engaged with said ring gear only when said starter device is operated;
and

a drain mechanism provided on said recoil cover for allowing a liquid entering from said recoil cover to be discharged by one-touch operation; and

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wherein said drain mechanism includes a transparent pipe member attached to said recoil cover and a plug member fitted to said pipe member.

Claim 3. (currently amended) ~~The engine~~
~~starter according to claim 1,~~ An engine starter, comprising:

a recoil device;

a ring gear operatively rotated with
said recoil device;

a recoil cover for accommodating said
recoil device and said ring gear therein;

a starter device having pinions engaged
with said ring gear only when said starter device is operated;
and

a drain mechanism provided on said recoil cover for allowing a liquid entering from said recoil cover to be discharged by one-touch operation; and

wherein said recoil cover includes a window for allowing the liquid therein to be visible from outside

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Claim 4. (original) The engine starter according to claim 2, wherein said recoil cover includes a window for allowing the liquid therein to be visible from outside.

Claim 5. (currently amended) ~~The engine starter according to claim 1, An engine starter, comprising:~~

a recoil device;

a ring gear operatively rotated with said recoil device;

a recoil cover for accommodating said recoil device and said ring gear therein;

a starter device having pinions engaged with said ring gear only when said starter device is operated, and

a drain mechanism provided on said recoil cover for allowing a liquid entering from said recoil cover to be discharged by one-touch operation; and

wherein said recoil cover includes a compressed air injection hole for introducing compressed air to forcibly discharge the liquid inside said recoil cover and a lid member for closing said compressed air injection hole.

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Claim 6. (original) The engine starter according to claim 2, wherein said recoil cover includes a compressed air injection hole for introducing compressed air to forcibly discharge the liquid inside said recoil cover and a lid member for closing said compressed air injection hole.

Claim 7. (original) The engine starter according to claim 3, wherein said recoil cover includes a compressed air injection hole for introducing compressed air to forcibly discharge the liquid inside said recoil cover and a lid member for closing said compressed air injection hole.

Claim 8. (original) The engine starter according to claim 4, wherein said recoil cover includes a compressed air injection hole for introducing compressed air to forcibly discharge the liquid inside said recoil cover and a lid member for closing said compressed air injection hole.

Claim 9. (currently amended) ~~The engine~~
~~starter according to claim 1, An engine starter, comprising:~~

a recoil device;

a ring gear operatively rotated with
said recoil device;

a recoil cover for accommodating said
recoil device and said ring gear therein;

a starter device having pinions engaged
with said ring gear only when said starter device is operated;
and

a drain mechanism provided on said
recoil cover for allowing a liquid entering from said recoil
cover to be discharged by one-touch operation; and

wherein said drain mechanism includes a
boss formed integrally with said recoil cover, and an auxiliary
pipe is press-fit to said boss, wherein a drain ~~house~~ hose is
fixedly coupled via a clip over an outer periphery of said
auxiliary pipe at one end thereof, and at the other end of said
drain hose, a drain cap is loosely fitted and securely fixed
thereto with a second clip.

10. (new) The engine starter according to claim 2, wherein the transparent pipe member provides for visibility of liquid in the recoil cover.

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11. (new) The engine starter according to claim 3, wherein the window of the recoil cover is positioned above the drain mechanism to provide for visibility of liquid in the recoil cover.

12. (new) The engine starter according to claim 5, wherein the air injection hole is positioned above the drain mechanism to enable the compressed air to forcibly discharge the liquid from inside the recoil cover.